United States Department of Agriculture
Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration
Federal Grain Inspection Service

Issuance Change

CHANGE TO

☐DIRECTIVE ☐MANUAL ☒HANDBOOK

CHANGE NO.	TO *(NO.)*	TITLE	DATE:
24		Weighing Handbook Chapter 4, Checkweighing	11/1/04

PURPOSE OF CHANGE

This chapter is revised to delete the footnote from Page 4-10. The footnote is no longer applicable to rice and grain weighed online.

FILING INSTRUCTIONS

Remove	Dated	Insert	Dated
Page 4-9	9/1/03	Page 4-9	9/1/03
Page 4-10	9/1/03	Page 4-10	11/1/04

/s/ David Orr

David Orr, Director
Field Management Division

Distribution: A, C, E Originating Office: FMD, PPB

(3) **Average Primary.** Divide the total weight of the primary containers by the total number of primary containers weighed to determine the average tare weight of one empty primary container.

(4) **Average Secondary.** Divide the total weight of the secondary containers by the total number of secondary containers weighed to determine the average tare weight of one empty secondary container.

(5) **Finding Average Tare.** Multiply the average tare weight of one empty primary container by the number of primary containers in one unit. Add this total to the average tare weight of one empty secondary container to determine the average tare weight of one unit.

d. **Very Light Containers.**

(1) **Division Size.** If a large number of containers are needed to determine the tare weight, use a scale with a small scale division to weigh the containers.

(2) **Shrink-Wrap.** Determine the average tare weight of stretch-wrap and shrink-wrap plastic balers (secondary containers) once for each shipment of the baler material.

e. **Warehouse Lots.**

(1) **Earlier Established Tare Weights.** If empty containers are not available for determining tare weight and the lot was previously checkweighed (e.g., at origin), use the previously determined tare weight.

(2) **Finding Empty Container Tare Values.** If empty containers are not available for determining tare weight and the lot is not known to have been previously checkweighed, use the following table to determine the tare weight.

TABLE 4
SPECIAL TARE WEIGHTS

Type of Sack	Net Weight	Tare Weight
Single polypropylene	100 lb net	0.25 lb
Single polypropylene	50 kg net	0.27 lb
Single burlap	100 lb net	0.70 lb
Single burlap	50 kg net	0.75 lb
Double burlap	100 lb net	1.20 lb
Double burlap	50 kg net	1.40 lb

4.6 SAMPLE SIZE AND METHOD SELECTION

a. **Sample Size.**

(1) **Minimum.** Checkweigh no less than minimum number of units required per sublot or lot. (See Table 5)

(2) **Increased Number.** Checkweigh additional units if sample manipulation or gross packing inconsistency is suspected.

(3) **Type Container.** When one lot consists of two different types of sacks (for example, polypropylene and burlap) with the same net weight, weigh the lot as two separate lots by type of sack and complete a worksheet for each. Use table 5 to determine the number of sacks of each type to weigh. Upon request, certificate the lots on one certificate.

(4) **Special Contracts.** If a contract or agreement specifies that a greater number of units be check weighed than is specified in Table 5 (e.g., Defense Supply Center Philadelphia (DSCP) contracts), the sample size shall be as specified by the contract or agreement.